

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-19, 28-32, 37-46, and 56-63 are pending in this application and are allowed. Claims 4, 20-27, 33-36, 47-55, and 64-69 are cancelled.

Applicant confirms with and agrees that the substance of the interview between the undersigned attorney and Examiner D. Jones on 23 February 2004, as follows.

With regard to the amendment of the Examiner's amendment of the first paragraph,

Applicant requests the application be amended to recite the priority information, as follows, as noted in the Amendment herein, wherein the word "which" as drafted in the Examiner's amendment is replaced with "and":

"Related Applications

This application is a CIP of PCT/US0010098 filed April 15, 2000 and claims priority to U.S. Provisional application Serial no. 60/159, filed October 15, 1999."

Applicant confirms that the Examiner was given authority to amend the claims in accordance with "replacement claim set" filed on December 3, 2002. It is also confirmed that the second "45" appearing in the Claims 56, 57, 60, and 63 should be replaced with "46".

Applicant confirms that the Examiner was given authority to make handwritten amendments to the specification as shown in the Supplemental Notice of Allowability because of scanning errors at the Patent Office.

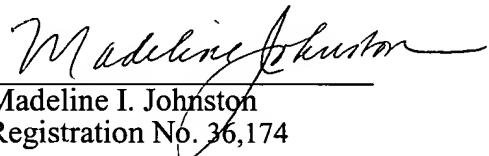
Appl. No. 09/690,353

Response to Supplemental Notice of Allowability and Amendment dated March 24, 2004

Reply to Supplemental Notice of Allowability dated March 1, 2004

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 11-0980 referencing to our new docket no. 11138.105030 (MAYO 1003US).

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 24, 2004

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